

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203 801-538-5340

December 9, 1991

TO:

Minerals File

FROM:

Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer add

RE:

Site Inspection, Desmond Shields, Greenstone A & B Claims, E/003/017,

Box Elder County, Utah

Date of Inspection: November 20, 1991, 1991

Time of Inspection: 1335 - 1410 Conditions: Overcast, cool

Wayne Hedberg, Tony Gallegos, DOGM; Jerry North, Interstate Participants:

Brick

The purpose of this inspection was to verify the existence and evaluate the status of mining/exploration activity near Grouse Creek Junction.

The site is located on the border of Sections 21 and 22, T8N, R18W, SLB&M. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) owns the surface and mineral rights to section 22, but only owns the surface rights to the east half of section 21. This is a variscite operation.

Access to the site is via a road south off Highway 30, less than a mile west of the Grouse Creek turnoff. The disturbance at the site consists of some roads at the top of the knoll, a pit and dump area, and another small excavation located N-NE along the ridge of the knoll. The pit shows signs of drilling and blasting. The pit highwall is approximately 35-40 feet high with no benching or design components. The instability of material on this highwall is a cause of concern by the Division. The dump and pit area encompass approximately 1.5 acres. Some trash was found in and around the pit. A small oil spill is evident on the pad area adjacent to the pit. The smaller excavation and roads encompass 0.5 acres or less.

Signs of historic mining are evident in the area N-NE of the pit. This area is revegetated with grasses. Photographs were taken to document the status of the site. Page 2
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The Division originally received this Notice from the BLM in November 1990. The Notice was found incomplete by the BLM due to the lack of detailed description of the operation and the lack of an agreement with the surface and subsurface landowners. No further information has been received regarding the resolution of the BLM Notice deficiencies at this time. This notice was filed as an exploration project by the Division. The operator has not been contacted by the Division as of this date.

The Division is concerned with the current unsafe configuration of the pit highwall. This highwall is unstable and not benched in an acceptable manner. A letter should be sent to the operator regarding this safety concern and the notice deficiencies.

cc: Dan Washington, Bear River RA, BLM Wayne Hedberg, DOGM E003017



